

which parts of the yajña-cow should be distributed to whom, and till death he did not impart this knowledge to anyone. But, sometime afterwards a non-human individual taught the subject to Girija, son of Babhru. (Aitareya Brāhmaṇa).

At the time when the Śrñjayas and the Kuru kings were living in amity consequent upon the dākṣāyaṇa yajña it was this Devabhāga who acted as the priest of both the parties. His theories on Sāvitrāgni are quoted in Taittirīya Brāhmaṇa.

**DEVABHRĀT.** An effulgent Devatā who was the son of Ravi and father of Subhrāt. (Ādi Parva, Chapter 1, Verse 42).

**DEVĀDARŚA.** An ācārya in the line of Vyāsa's disciples. He was the disciple of Kabandha, and he had many disciples. Medhā, Brahmabali, Sautāyana and Pippalāda were chief among those disciples. (See genealogy of Gurus).

**DEVADĀRUVANA.** A holy centre. A dip in the tīrtha here is productive of very good results. (M.B. Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 25, Verse 27).

**DEVADĀSA.** A rich Vaiśya extolled much in the Kathāsaritsāgara. He lived in Pātaliputra and had married the daughter of a very rich Vaiśya of Paunḍravardhana. After his father's death Devadāsa lost all his wealth in gambling, and his wife foresook her impecunious husband and returned home.

After roaming about for some time the helpless Devadāsa decided to go to his wife's house, and one mid-night he went there. While hiding himself there in the darkness he heard his wife telling her paramour the following: "In the four corners of Devadāsa's house are hidden four treasures. But he does not know about the treasures hidden thus by one of his fore-fathers. I got the information from his mother. You should purchase the property for a small price."

No sooner did Devadāsa hear the above than he hurried back to his house and dug up the treasure and thus became wealthy again. The paramour of his wife went to him a few days later and purchased the property at a heavy price. But, when he dug up the place no treasure was found. Then he wanted to sell back the property to Devadāsa himself, but he refused to purchase it. The case was taken before the King when Devadāsa detailed the whole story. And, as ordered by the King, Devadāsa disfigured his wife and wedded another wife. (Kathāsaritsāgara, Lāvāṇakalāmbakam, Taraṅga 5).

**DEVADATTA I.** A famous brahmin boy whose story is described in the Kathāsaritsāgara.

Devadatta was the son of the Brahmin, Haridatta of Kambukapura. Though as a boy Devadatta learnt all the arts and sciences when he grew up to be a youth he became a very wayward fellow. Dice-play became his main job. One day in a game of dice he lost even his clothes, and being afraid of his father, he left the place without returning home.

Devadatta roamed about, and during one such trip he saw a deserted temple, and a muni called Jālapāda engaged in reciting mantras. Devadatta prostrated before the muni and told him all the details about himself. The muni accepted Devadatta as his śiṣya and promised to secure vidyādhara hood for him.

Next night Jālapāda led Devadatta to a burning ghat,

nearby the temple. After conducting Pūjā in the shade of a fig tree with offerings of Pāyasa and Vaiśva-devabali the muni told Devadatta thus: "You should come here daily and perform pūjā like this, and pray at the close of it, 'Oh ! Vidyutprabhā ! please accept my pūjā.'

Devadatta acted according to the above advice of the muni, and one day, at the close of his pūjā the tree broke open into two and a beautiful female who appeared from it took him with her saying that her mistress wanted him. He was thus taken to a house studded with gems wherein he saw a noble lady seated on a cot. She caught Devadatta by his hands and after seating him alongside said to him: "I am Vidyutprabhā, daughter of the Yakṣa king Ratnavarṣa. I am a virgin girl. Muni Jālapāda has worshipped me so much that I have decided to fulfil his desire. I am in love with you and you will please wed me."

Accordingly Devadatta married Vidyutprabhā and lived there with her. In due course she conceived, and Devadatta met Jālapāda and told him about the whole affair, and the muni, to achieve his personal object asked Devadatta to cut open the abdomen of Vidyutprabhā and take to him the child found therein. Devadatta did not at all relish the idea. Yet reluctant to disobey his preceptor he returned to his wife. She permitted him to carry out the directions of the muni, yet his mind did not approve of the action. Then Vidyutprabhā herself cut open her abdomen, took the child out of it and placing it before her husband told him thus:—"He who eats the child will become a Vidyādhara. Take it. I was a Vidyādhari turned into a Yakṣi by a curse, and to cut open my abdomen and take out the child like this was the redemption promised me from the curse, and now I go to the Vidyādhara world; we shall meet there." And she disappeared.

In great sorrow Devadatta brought the child to Jālapāda who, after sending him out on the pretext of his (Jālapāda's) performing Bhairavapūja, ate up the child. Devadatta returned and when he knew of the action of his preceptor he was overcome with rage. But the latter rose up to the skies assuming the form of a Vidyādhara. Devadatta made up his mind to anyhow take revenge upon Jālapāda, and he also went to Vidyādhara-loka with the help of a Vetāla whom he befriended by offering human flesh. And, there he saw Jālapāda drunk with pride at his Vidyādhara hood sitting on a throne of gems in a mansion. Meanwhile Vidyutprabhā who was now once more a Vidyādhari had turned down the advances made by the erstwhile Jālapāda for her love. But, at the sight of Devadatta her face flushed with love for him while, in fear, the sword fell down from the hands of Jālapāda who now fainted. Devadatta prevented the Vetāla from killing Jālapāda and he (Vetāla) at the instance of Devadatta took Jālapāda to the burning ghat and cremated him there.

Kātyāyanidevi at this time appeared before Devadatta and pleased with his courage appointed him as chief of the Vidyādharas. He wedded Vidyutprabhā and lived happily. (Kathāsaritsāgara, Caturdārikāmbakam, Taraṅga 3).

**DEVADATTA II.** A king of ancient India, son of King Jayadatta. Jayadatta wanted to marry his son Devadatta to the daughter of a Vaiśya in Pātaliputra. Though it